



May 8, 2000

BP Amoco 100th Solar Petrol Station

(Luxembourg, 05/02/2000) Eugène Berger - State Secretary for the Environment - and Mr. Douglas W. Ford - BP Amoco's Chief Executive Marketing & Refining - inaugurated the first BP solar station in Luxembourg.

BP Capellen, is the 100th solar site within the worldwide network of BP Amoco and the company's largest service station in Europe, is located along the Autoroute A6 from Arlon to Luxembourg. The site has been equipped with 564 solar panels which generate clean energy for the canopy lights and pumps. As a result, the CO₂ output of the site will be reduced substantially.

The solar installation in Luxembourg is part of a worldwide project called Plug in the Sun, a program which will incorporate solar energy on 200 BP Amoco service stations in ten countries: the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Portugal, Spain, Australia and Japan. In total, BP Amoco is investing approximately US\$ 50 million in this 3.5 MegaWatt project and it is one of the company's activities to help tackle the global problem of climate change. Based on the success in the countries involved, the Plug in the Sun program will be implemented in the United States of America as well. It is BP Amoco's objective in the U.S.A. to install solar panels on new sites in its Clean Cities program and additional key markets before the end of this year.

As a result of this project, BP Amoco - one of the world's largest producers of solar panels - will at the same time become one of the largest single users of solar energy in the world. The company will considerably reduce CO₂ emissions and as an user of solar energy, can further develop its experience in this area. Moreover, the company contributes to the standardisation of equipment, which will drive down costs for everybody who wishes to use solar panels.

The Plug in the Sun project perfectly ties in with BP Amoco's desire to help tackle the issue of climate change. The company is committed to reduce greenhouse gases and other pollutants both from its own manufacturing operations (a 10% reduction from a 1990 baseline by the year 2010) and from the use of its products, particularly transport fuels. BP Amoco is moving towards its objectives in a number of ways. Firstly, the company has taken the initiative to introduce cleaner fuels - i.e. fuels which are free of lead and contain less sulphur - initially in 40 cities around the world where the problem of air quality is more acute. Clean fuels have for example already been launched in the United Kingdom, Paris and Chicago and other launches around the world will follow. Emissions trading also has a key role to play in bringing about reductions in CO2 emissions, as well as providing natural gas - particularly in emerging economies - as an alternative to coal and the heavy emissions associated with it.

Another initiative to reduce CO2 emissions and help tackle the problem of climate change is the development of solar power. BP Amoco is today one of the world's largest solar companies. At present, solar power can only produce a small fraction of global energy needs - but in 50 years, it is predicted by some that solar power and other renewable sources of energy could meet half the world's energy needs.

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